2-28-91

**Inside Today:**

*Gung Hay Fat Choy*

**Playoffs begin tomorrow**

*See page 4*

*Last day to drop classes without a 'W' is March 3*

Thursday
Feburary 28, 1991

# VALLEY STAR

Van Nuys, California | Serving Valley College for 42 years | Vol.42, No.17

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Registering Reminder

The deadline to register to vote is March 8. Registration forms are available in CC 102. Along with the election of the board of trustees, Proposition C, the $200 million bond will be on the April 9 ballot. The ASU and the administration are urging voters to vote yes on Proposition C.

### Graduation Deadline

Deadline for filing for Spring graduation is 4 p.m. Friday, March 1. Petitions are available in the Graduation Administration office (Admin. 127). For more information, call Ext. 403/404.

### Blood Drive Results

The American Red Cross collected approximately 76 pints of blood from the students who donated at the Spring 1991 Blood Drive on campus last week. Their constant need for donors increased with the onset of the war. Their estimated goal was 40 pints, but they received over 30 additional pints that weren't anticipated.

### $150 Grant

The Patrons Association of LAVC are offering a $150 grant for the spring semester for students who are carrying at least 12 units, have at least a 2.0 GPA in all units and have a financial need. Applications are available in the financial aid office, CC 100. Applications must be returned by March 26.

### Career Counseling

Single parent career assessment and counseling will be given by Barbara Goldberg, career counselor, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in Bung. 13. She will be available at Ext. 246, 331 or 332.

### Art Exhibit

June Harwood's latest artwork will be exhibited in a one-woman show entitled "Recent Paintings" from Thursday, March 7 to April 18, in the campus Art Gallery. A preview and reception will be held Wednesday, March 6, from 7 to 9 p.m. Admission to both the preview and regular show is free. For the regular hours of the show, call Ext. 400.

### Valley Green

The new Valley Green organization will meet Monday at 1 p.m. in CC 104 and Tuesday at 6 p.m. in CC 203. For more information, leave a message in the Valley Green box located in CC 102.

### Conserve Water

Valley College administrators are asking staff and students to report water waste on campus. Dripping or leaky faucets can be reported by calling Ext. 336.

# Professor accused of sexism

By SUSAN M. TYRRELL
Editor in Chief

Dr. W. Milton Timmons, professor of theatre arts at Valley College, defends controversial statements he made about women in a required textbook, despite the fact that entertainment industry and feminist groups are fighting for its removal.

The book, Orientation to Cinema, is the required text of the Theatre 500 class of the same name. Last week, a female student, upset by the comments in the two-page "Women in the Film Industry" section of Timmons' book, took her complaint to the National Organization of Women.".

NOW had discussions with the subcommittee of the Writers Guild of America and it initiated a campaign "demanding the book be pulled," said Patty Morrill, a WGA member.

Morrill said the fight is not censorship because Timmons is expressing his opinion as fact and requiring students to purchase the textbook. Theatre 500 is the prerequisite to all advanced film classes.

"When they take 500, some women discover they aren't disciplined enough to make it in the entertainment industry," Timmons said. "That chapter is devoted entirely to counseling because they need it very clearly explained how greuling and hard the industry is," he said.

"We want to discourage those who are not intent on their devotion and only waste time," Timmons said. "It can be a hazard to the other students. They can take it into the real world and it can be dangerous, they can interrupt the work of the industry. They need to be self-controlled and disciplined."

Timmons said it's not that women are less intelligent, they have other values. "In our society there are the traditional male / female roles," he said. "Usually after a man and woman have a child, the man gives it to the woman to take care of it.

"I like women," he said, "but if they want a career, they have to make early decisions for their whole life. They can't juggle a family and a career; it's all time consuming. It's a conflict and women tend to choose their families."

Timmons said each semester of 500 is predictable. A few women will be upset by the comments in the book and drop the class, but they're usually the one's getting C's and D's and missing classes. "That weeds out the one's who don't care," he said. "But it's annoying to me that they give up."

*'Most textbooks are so boring. Mine has gotten hundreds of rave opinions.'*
*— Dr. W.M. Timmons*

Timmons said he has read a lot of counseling and sociology books that say women tend to enroll in college for "a preference for male association," which he cites as sociological jargon.

Timmons said counselors report having a hard time getting women to enroll in professional classes. "They mostly major in secraterial skills classes, nursing or elementary education."

He said he welcomes committed women to his classes, all students for that matter, but the facts are, they don't stay. The next class, Theatre 501, is more advanced and Timmons said only one woman completed the class last semester. Only six to eight are enrolled this semester; he expects three or four will finish.

He said no student had ever filed a formal complaint before. On Tuesday, Timmons, the Theatre Arts department chair and a dean met to discuss the controversy and how to handle it.

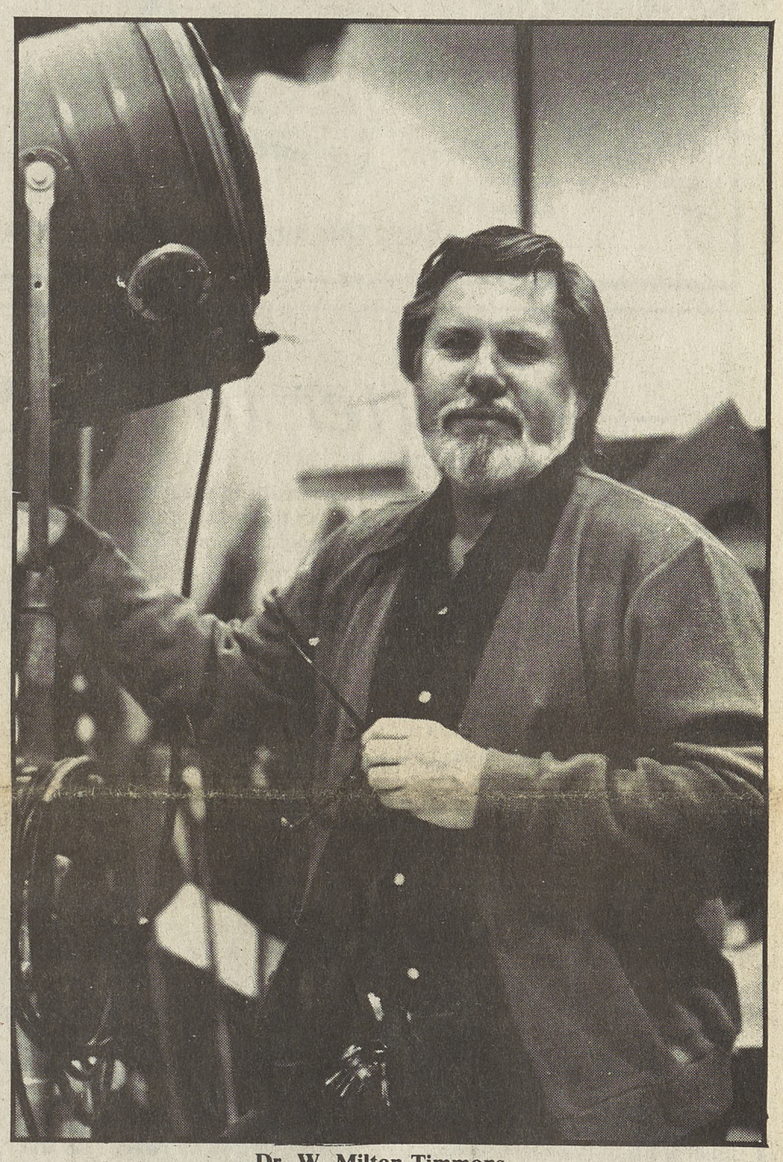
"It was decided if people disagreed with the statements I made, that's their privilege," Timmons said. They also tenatively decided to ask Women in Film to make a presentation to the Theatre Arts Department as part of an effort to recruit more students.

Timmons wondered what the people protesting the book hope to achieve. "Do they want it banned? What? I take pride in being succinct," he said. "The job of an author is to hold the readers attention. Most text books are so boring. Mine has gotten hundreds of rave opinions."

Morrill, however, is not intersted in reviews, only the comments in the book. The WGA has circulated a letter throughout the entertainment industry and sent it to Dr. Mary Lee, president of Valley. In it, members of the entertainment community ask Dr. Lee to "immediately drop this text book from your curriculum, or at the very least, provide your students with a balanced viewpoint." The letter says they are "appalled with the blatant discrimination... it is all the more dismaying that this text has been required reading... as writers, we fully support Dr. Timmons' first amendment right to free expression, however, his students are entitled to know the facts..."

Morrill said her attempts to phone Dr. Lee were in vain. "Dr. Lee wasn't

*See PROFESSOR page 3*



Dr. W. Milton Timmons

## *Controversial passages*

*"...women don't really want equality- because equal priviliges mean equal responsibility."*

*"If they even bother to go to film school they usually drop out after one or two courses."*

*"Those [women] who do attend college are generally after (1) a college-educated husband, or (2) a comfortable 'job' (whichever comes first) but not an all consuming professional 'career' to which they are willing to devote their entire life."*

*"If they get as far as directing a movie, they almost always summarize the experience by saying, 'Never again! Life is too short to subject yourself to that kind of pressure."*

*"...man's 'need for achievement' may be just as instinctive as woman's compulsion to have babies."*

# $200 million bond to improve education

By JENNIFER CASE
News Editor

Proposition C, the $200 million bond measure, if passed will raise funds to improve the quality of education at all nine campuses in the Los Angeles Community College District.

The board of trustees recently approved a one-tenth distribution between schools, leaving $20 million for each college, and $20 million, which can only be used for construction and repair, to be allocated on an "as needed basis."

No LACCD general fund money can be used to pay off the debt that the bond will incur.

"If passed, the bond will cost the average homeowner, who owns the average home, $2.35 a year to support the bond over it's 30 year life," said Larry Levine, the bond spokesperson.

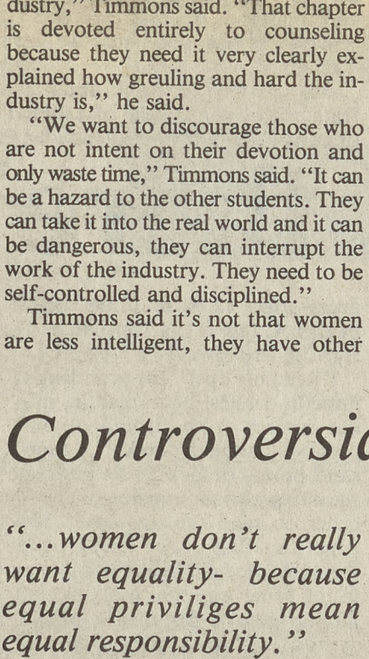
Levine says he would like people to be aware of the small cost to support the bond so the idea of paying extra property tax won't scare voters off. In addition, the money from Proposition C will free up money now being allocated from the general budget for defferred maintenance.

"So far, the community seems to show support for the bond," said Levine. A 66.67 percent "yes" vote is needed to pass the bond.

However, a poll was taken upon request of the board which showed that 60-63 percent of the electorate supports the idea of a bond.

The specific capital improvements on the agenda for Valley are:
The construction of a health science building, construction of expanded classroom facilities, renovation of the student services center, improvement of lighting for safety, rehabilitation of the library, and heating, air-conditioning, and roofing projects.

# *Free financial advice*



Robert Bond

By JENNIFER CASE
News Editor

Local military personnel and their families, who are worried about finances and taxes, can rest a little easier.

Robert Bond, a certified financial planner and a Valley College finance professor, is offering to waive his normal $100 an hour fee to provide financial services to local military personnel and their families.

Bond, who teaches courses in investments, real estate and personal finance, said men and women who are currently serving in the Gulf have financial benefits which they may not know about.

Although Bond doesn't personally know anyone in the Gulf, he is a veteran himself, and understands the added pressure of worrying about finances back home.

"As a veteran, I could identify with their needs," Bond said. "I wish someone would've counseled me when I got back (from the war)."

Many soldiers end up taking a cut in pay, which causes a substantial financial strain, he said. His services, he said, will help free soldiers and their families from these mental stresses.

"It's my way of saying 'thank you' and showing support," Bond said.

Some of the areas in which Bond will offer his assistance are renting costs, credit, auto loans, unemployment, income tax and educational benefits. Upon their return, veterans can even get help preparing tax returns, devising a budget statement or just learning how to get a better handle on their financial lives.

For more information, Bond can be reached at Ext. 395 or at 988-2663.

# Valley rations water

By JENNIFER CASE
News Editor

The city-wide mandatory 10 percent water cutbacks which will come into effect on March 1, have already began at Valley.

"We've been doing things for over a year to prepare for this cutback," said David E. Ogne, head of plant facilities. "We've already achieved over a 10 percent cutback that occurred before the water cutback will become mandatory."

Ogne said watering schedules have been reduced significantly, and flow restricters have been installed in restrooms, sinks, and showerheads.

The automatic clocks on waterers have been changed so they go on only once a week instead of 3 times a week, and the time they stay on has been reduced from 30minutes to 10.

*See page 3*

Boy, this sure ain't like the movies

# The blue jeans blues

By JESSICA J. CHAVEZ
Opinion Editor

Picture this: a tall nicely toned-body or a "voluptuous" figure have their curves and muscles perfectly outlined by the Levi's jeans they are wearing. You glance at their rear to get the full effect, but something is missing. The fashionable leather patch is gone

The Levi's label on their jeans has been ripped off and a 2.5 by 2 inch darker shade of blue appears on the worn-in denim jeans. What? How tacky, you think.

Would you sacrifice your label if you knew more than 1,100 people (mostly women) were laid off by Levi-Strauss, the manufacturer of Levi's?

Cheap labor. It comes to no surprise that an American company picks up its business and takes it elsewhere (like the Philippines, Mexico or other third-world nations).

In this case, the Levi-Strauss Zarzamora plant in San Antonio, Texas has moved production to Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic where cheaper labor is available.

Not only does this affect the American people and economy but also the people of other countries.

Many corporations move production to foreign nations where the people slave over long hours under deplorable conditions with the lack of worker's unions, lack of health and social benefits and for a fraction of what workers get here.

Laying off employees who work at $5 an hour in America to hire another bunch somewhere else for less than $5-a-day can not be justified by the "world of business."

No, it is not "the way the cookie crumbles." American big-time multi-national corporations already have it made, but greed and capital gains at the expense of another is much too much for them to resist.

What is going to happen to American jobs? Have you tried to get a job lately? How's that unemployment line coming along?

Big-time corporations fabricate the murder of this nation.

I'm in favor of improving a company, but when it gets to the point of greed and greater profits at the expense of such atrocity, I draw the line.

When does the question of ethics come in? Does anyone care? Just because the plant was in Texas doesn't exclude us. Look at what is happening at the General Motors plant in Van Nuys and Lockheed in Burbank. Thousands of workers are laid-off, even those who were with the company for more than 15 years. Yea, now it hits home.

Who doesn't own a pair of Levi's denim jeans? Few people don't own at least one pair, especially now that Levi's over a black pair of boots has been the latest trend. But, there are other brands...

A mobilization to boycott Levi-Strauss blue jeans began a year ago, receiving support from Congressman Henry B. Gonzales, the G.I. Forum, Image magazine, LULAC (League of United Latin American Citizens) and other organizations. Recently, the city of San Antonio began helping laid-off workers with utility bills and rent payments.

Boycott Levis. Imagine what a difference each one of us can make. Show our support by not purchasing any more Levi's and by tearing the leather patch (yes that fashionable tag) off the Levi's jeans bought before the boycott and mail the labels to Levi-Strauss.

You can also bring your labels to the Valley College MECHA (Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan) organization which will send them for you.

Boycott Levi's and support more than 1,000 people who were unrighteously and selfishly robbed of their jobs.

# *In the name of shame*

By JESSICA J. CHAVEZ
Opinion Editor

Saddam and his army: Animals, barbaric, dirty, sly, antagonistic, harmful, deadly, hostile, insane, inhumane. OUR ENEMY.

Take a look at each of these words. Do you think any one of them precisely describes Saddam or his troops?

Did you answer "yes" to any one of these questions or were you tempted to?

It's a damn shame if you did. You are a victim of the mind war.

Our servicemen, your friends or family members, have been trained to kill the enemy. They don't care who it is; on that battlefield somebody is out to kill them. Isn't it better for our loved ones to kill first rather than be killed?

Our beloved soldiers can't be compassionate of the enemy. There must be hatred. How else are they to defeat them?

Creating a distorted image of the enemy, whether Japanese, Jewish, Black, Chicano, Asian or Arabic, makes you stronger. As the war (any war) goes on, it soon becomes okay to kill the enemy.

As I watched the news on TV, pity overwhelmed me as I saw four enemy soldiers coming out of their fox hole with their hands up, fear written all over their faces. No language was needed to understand that they were begging for mercy. One of the Iraqi soldiers even kissed the hand of the American soldier as he surrendered.

The other American soldiers still pointed their weapons at them.

The broadcaster said Bush wasn't planning on ceasing fire until all the United Nations resolutions were met. Operations went on as planned despite the withdrawal of hundreds and thousands of Iraqi troops.

We were happy because we were "winning."

But did anyone think about the Iraqi as a person instead of a soldier or enemy? Did anyone acknowledge the fear they must have nad running through their minds and bodies?

No, it wasn't propaganda. If it was, those four Iraqi soldiers are the best actors I've ever seen.

As we pray for our friends in the Persian Gulf, we condemn "the enemy." This doesn't make sense.

Doesn't this enemy have a face? Doesn't this enemy have the same organisms conducting the same operations in their bodies as do our soldiers? Do they not have a mind, a heart, hands, feet...feelings?

They have everything that makes up one of our "good guys," yet they are the enemy because they are fighting for their country just as we are fighting for a cause.

Yes, it's a damn shame. All of us are victims of the mind. Yes, it is a terrible thing to waste. The mind is also the most powerful weapon our soldiers have.

The mind can turn a perfectly sane person like your sister, son, boyfriend/girlfriend or father into a heartless killing machine, just like the enemy.

## — *Letter to the Star* —

### Wilson criticizes *Star* for letter

**Editor:**

The *Valley Star* has permitted its "Letters to the Editor" section to become a vehicle for a vicious attempt to character assassination.

I did not object when an article in the newspaper, under a misleading head line, challenged the course content of my broadcasting classes.

However, I am forced to defend myself against subsequent published suggestions that I am a racist, an opponent of a religion and a militarist.

I am, in fact, just the opposite in each instance.

Dozens of minority members have entered the broadcasting field from our program here at Valley College.

I have actively supported the civil rights movement since its inception in countless commentaries heard over a top rated Los Angeles radio station.

I have incurred the wrath of the conservative community. During my tenure as News Director at KPOL, I was instrumental in adding the first black to the engineering staff and the first Chicano, Danny Mora, to the announcing staff.

I put on the air the first woman commentator, Patricia Kent and hired the first full time on-air newswoman, Heidi Schulman, despite the reservations of the station manager.

I was billed as a liberal commentator at KPOL and aired innumerable comment aries criticizing the US involvement in Vietnam.

I am surprised but not entirely displeased that some of my students do not detect my political persuasion. And I am not at all ashamed that I served nearly four years in the US army during the period of the Korean war.

In the interest of justice I hope that the Valley Star will begin to follow its own guidelines in its published Code of Ethics to "deal only in issues not personalities" and keep its pledge to keep "false and malicious state ments" out of the Valley Star.

**Raymond O. Wilson**
**Professor of Broadcasting**

# "... that our flag was still there"

By JAE LEVINE WEISS
Staff Writer

Across the country, in a unified effort to show support for the media event now known as "Desert Storm," millions of American flags wave from houses, office buildings, trees and mountain tops, Toyota pickup trucks and gas pumps.

**"The Stars and Stripes Forever- Only $24.95 (plus $3 postage/ins) Beautiful Pin Lets You Wear Your Flag Proudly, Fashionably. This patriotic flag pin of gleaming simulated ruby, sapphire and crystal stones lets you state your colors proudly and elegantly. Meticulously crafted in the U.S.A. Money back guarantee. Order toll free by phone. Visa/ Mastercard accepted."**(ad in Feb. 25 PEOPLE Magazine)

"Meet you at the flagpole," is the rallying cry of the schoolyard bully. The flag itself applauds the victor from its windy perch, metal clanging rhythmically against metal as the bloody-nosed surrender takes place below.

**"LET YOUR COLORS *FLY* Red, White and Blue. Always in fashion - never more than today. Here, some of the most wonderful ways we've seen to parade your true colors wherever you go. Shop by phone 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Call toll-free. There is a charge for all deliveries."** (ad in Feb. 17 LA Times for The Broadway)

The coffin, draped in stars and stripes of white and gray solemnly marched across every television set. Synchronized drum beats echoed through apartment walls. It was the only sound that could be heard in the streets across an entire nation on that November morning in 1963, as America held a funeral procession for its dreams.

**KIDS: WRITE TO OUR TROOPS AND WE'LL MAIL YOUR LETTER FREE! To make sure our forces in the Middle East know Southern California kids care, we've set up a troop mail center in West Coast Kids at every store. You don't even need a stamp or even paper - just write your message on the stationery we've provided and drop it in our Special Delivery Desert Storm mailbox. We'll do the rest!"** (ad in Feb. 17 LA Times for The Broadway)

"My country, right or wrong!" the flag-bearing hawk screams at long-haired college kids in tattered Levi's. Egged on by the crowd he uses the pole as a bayonet. "Love it or leave it!" he shouts as he jabs the sharp wood point at a teenager's chest.

**"OPERATION DESERT STORM" Free Photo Button of your Service Person in Uniform. See Photo Department for details."** (Sav-on Drugs ad in LA Times Feb. 10)

Abbie Hoffman was arrested for wearing a shirt made out of an American flag on national television. Larry Flynt, the wheelchair bound publisher of HUSTLER Magazine was convicted for wearing the flag as a diaper. He paid his fine with 400 pounds of pennies.

Flag burning has been declared a constitutional right under the First Amendment by the Supreme Court.

**" 'You Can't Touch This': Our flag-flying pure cotton tee in red and blue on white by a famous maker. M to XL, $14.00. Made in U.S.A."** (ad in Feb. 17 LA Times for The Broadway)

Remember the Alamo. Remember Bull Run. Remember the battle of Gettysburg. Remember D-Day. Remember Washington crossing the Potomac. Remember to put your right hand over your heart.

**"Write on, America: just two from our collection of pens inspired by Old Glory - these with foldable tops that retract the points (one doubles as a keychain, too!) Great gifts."** (ad in LA Times Feb. 17 for The Broadway)

The heavy-set woman's American Flag emblazoned tee shirt reads, "Support our Troops in the Gulf." The geometric gap between white and red stripes is distorted by the losing battle of control between "Fruit of the Loom" and D-cup breasts.

**"Personal patriotism: our tiny, gleaming flag stick-pin in enamel on goldtone metal for a lapel, a tie, or wherever you want it to wave. Made in U.S.A."**(ad in LA Times Feb. 17 for The Broadway)

The woman in black sitting on a hard metal chair flinches each time one of the twenty one gunshots ran out. She numbly accepts the triangle of colored cloth from the whited gloved soldier as the box containing her son's body is lowered into its grave.

**"A toss of ribbons to go to your head. Here, just one from our collection of starred and striped hair accessories, 12.00 to 14.00. Made in U.S.A.** (ad in LA Times Feb. 17 for The Broadway)

"Read my lips!" the presidential hopeful smiles benevolently into the camera from behind an impressive mahogany desk. "A thousand points of light," he intones, squinting almost imperceptively in order to read the cue card. The American flag in the background validates the politician's patriotism in the same way that a bikini clad model turns a car into a phallic symbol. "A kinder, gentler nation," he sighs, pressing his hands together for emphasis.

"That was excellent, Mr. Bush," the director calls out from his chair behind the cameraman. "I'd just like you to try it one more time, only this time, can you put more emphasis on the words, 'kinder' and 'gentler'?"

**"SAVE 33 percent ON FLAG BLANKET THROWS - 'stars and stripes' all cotton U"S" made throws Show your spirit with our red, white and blue 'Stars and Stripes" blanket throw. It's a generous 50"x60" in size, perfect for picnic or sports events.**(ad in LA Times Feb. 24 for May Company)

Throughout the crowded stadium, hats over hearts, the sports fans rise to their feet.

"Oh say does tha-at star spangled ba-a-ner ye-et wa-ave, o'er the la-and of the FREEEEE, and the home of the brave!"

Rosanne Barr grabs her crotch and spits.

Firecracker finale on the Fourth of July. The red white and blue flames crackle and spit, culminating in a brightly lit blaze for the cheering crowd. Mothers shake the dust from blankets and gather up their picnic baskets. Men drape sleepy toddlers over shoulders. Old women brush loose crabgrass pressed into cellulite-plagued thighs. The crowd presses forward impatiently toward the parking lot where cars are already irritably grid- locked head light to tail light. Left behind is a field strewn with paper plates and beer cans, and the fizzling remainder of Old Glory's last sparks.

(Patriotic flag and yellow ribbon festooned billboard in Agoura along Hwy 101) **"WE SUPPORT OUR TROOPS! Pierce Brothers' Mortuary."**

**Valley Star**

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★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★

The Valley Star is happy to receive and, if possible, publish letters from its readers.

The Star reserves the right to condense all letters for space considerations. Submitted letters should be limited to 350 words. Letters are subject to editing if they are obscene, libelous, or make racial, ethnic or religious denigrations.

Letters should be signed and, if applicable, include student's major and ID number. Letters may be presented to the Valley Star office, Bungalow 25, by Monday for the following Thursday.

# *Fencing takes style not brute strength*

By ANNA VILLA
Sports Editor

"En garde!"The command is given and immediately the students of Maria Luczy's fencing class assume the defensive stance, ready to fend off the taunting advances of her assistant Alejandro Martinez.
"Retreat, retreat, advance," Martinez says suddenly as he skillfully fends off the lunging attack of the first row of students and quickly lunges forward to catch one student so off guard she stumbles over the student behind her.

Luczy is the real master of the class although she can no longer perform because of knee problems. A former fencing competitor herself, the Hungarianborn teacher has taught fencing at Valley since 1964. She said she presents fencing not only as a the sixteenth century form of fighting that has transpired throughout the years into a sport, but as an art form.

"Fencing is an individual sport," said Luczy. It involves a great deal of discipline yet it also requires grace and poise."

Luczy said her class has always been met with enthusiasm and dedication, and many students return to practice their skills as well and to inspire other students.

When Luczy first began teaching fencing at Valley, some of her pupils would compete in matches against other junior colleges and would often place in state championships in three events: saber, foil and epee. However due to budget cuts, money for fencing equipment became scarce and the program was left with only Luczy's classes that teach the fundamentals for foil fencing open to all levels.

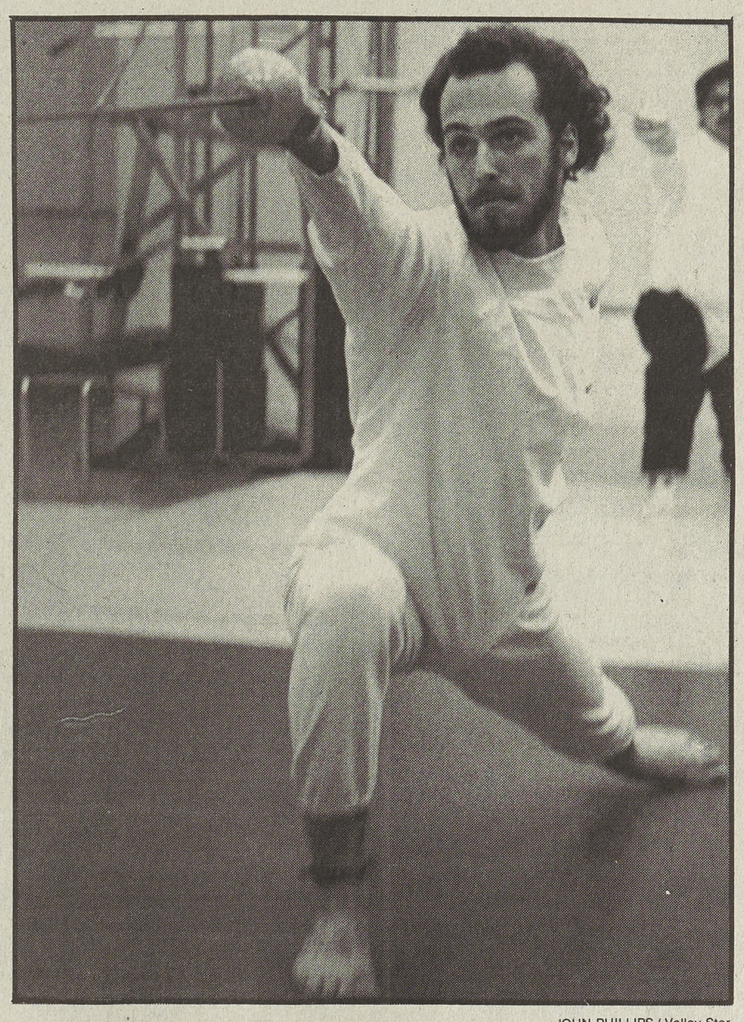
According to Carlos Sosa, also an assistant to Luczy, many students go to the West Side Fencing Center in Culver City to learn new techniques and return to share their skill with others in the class. Yet Sosa praises Luczy in her skills and her teaching even though she cannot demonstrate them fully, "The minute she calls her target, the foil is there, right on its mark," Sosa said.

Kim Anderson, a fencing student at Valley, said the popularity of fencing is gradually increasing especially with the coverage it gets in the Olympics. " Fencing is not a matter of strength but of technique, which makes it a lot easier to compete with men," said Anderson who said she was attracted to fencing by the genteelness of the sport depicted in old movies.

Felina Harris, also a fencing student at Valley said she was inspired by Aerol Flynn and pirate movies that depicted fencing, " I wouldn't consider most sports romantic, but fencing is definitely different."

Sosa said fencing is just as good as baseball and basketball because it takes a lot of dexterity and strengthens hand-eyecoordination. "It helps people get a lot of their aggressions out, plus it is a legal way to stab people," he quipped.

Martinez, however takes a philosophical viewpoint of the sport, he said it takes a lot of character to confront someone in this type of sport which he sees as more like an art of combat that involves consistency and practice.



JOHN PHILLIPS / Valley Star

**STRIKE A POSE —** Davor Atlas practices his lunging technique during Maria Luczy's fencing class in women's gym.

# Swim teams sink in first dual meet

By ANNA VILLA
Sports Editor

The Monarch swim teams were swept away in their first dual meet against Bakersfield last Saturday. The women's team suffered a 79-43 loss while the men's team took a 80-21 beating.

The turning point for the women occurred in the medley relay which they lost by only a tenth of a second. Bakersfield finished in 2:06, leaving Valley to come in at 2:06.10. Head swim coach Bill Krauss, said this "bruised the team's morale."
"It was a bad meet," said Kisa Kirkpatrick. But I think it's too early in the season to take it too seriously," she said.

Kirkpatrick, who is still nursing a swollen right shoulder from last season, picked up the team's pace and took first place in the 200 individual medley (2:26.08) and second in the 100 butterfly (1:04.05) while Jennifer Bartley placed second in the 100 freestyle (59:01) for the only bright spots in women's competition that day.

"Kisa is courageous; she swims in pain and works so hard, we have to tell her to cut back on some of her workouts," said Krauss of his lead woman swimmer.

For the men, Adrian Popescu was only able to grasp seconds in the 200 butterfly (2:26) and the 200 breaststroke (2:30.05). "We just got completely outswum by Bakersfield; they had too much quality and were just too fast," said Krauss.

Bakersfield also took the lead in the diving events but sophomore Ray Smith managed to place third for Valley in his first meet ever.

Diving coach Gary Honjio is expecting the diving team to do well despite the lack of experience of most of the team. "We won't be as strong as last year but we will be competitive," Honjio said.

According to Krauss, Valley had two factors working against them at the meet. Murky water, resulting from a broken filter in Bakersfield's pool, caused the swimmers to miss many of the turns, and Bakersfield had been working out since October and had competed at U.S. swim meets.

Kirkpatrick said she wasn't expecting Bakersfield to be so strong but she is looking forward to meeting some of their swimmers again at the state meet.

Krauss said despite Saturday's brutal loss, the team's morale is still high. Valley has the home pool advantage against Ventura tomorrow at 2:30 p.m.

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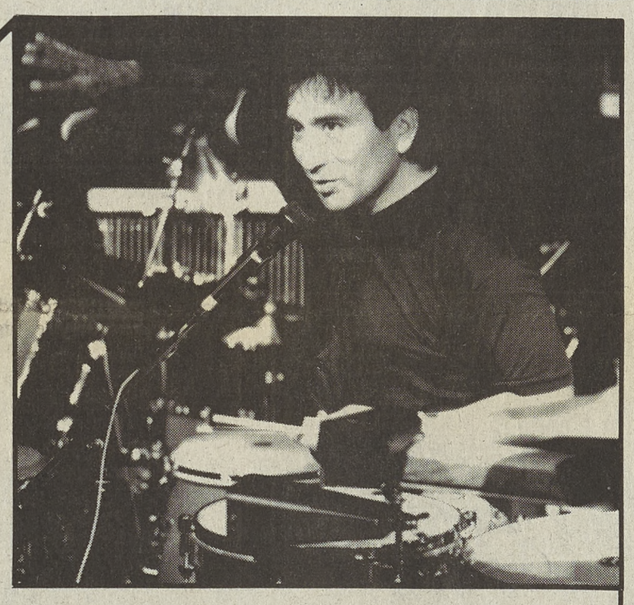

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**BRINGING IN NEW YEAR —** A festival helped the Vietnamese community of Santa Ana began a three-day Chinese New Year celebration on Friday, Feb. 15.

4689 — Year of the Ram

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# Gung Hay Fat Choy

***Happy New Year***

*Photos by Len Ly*

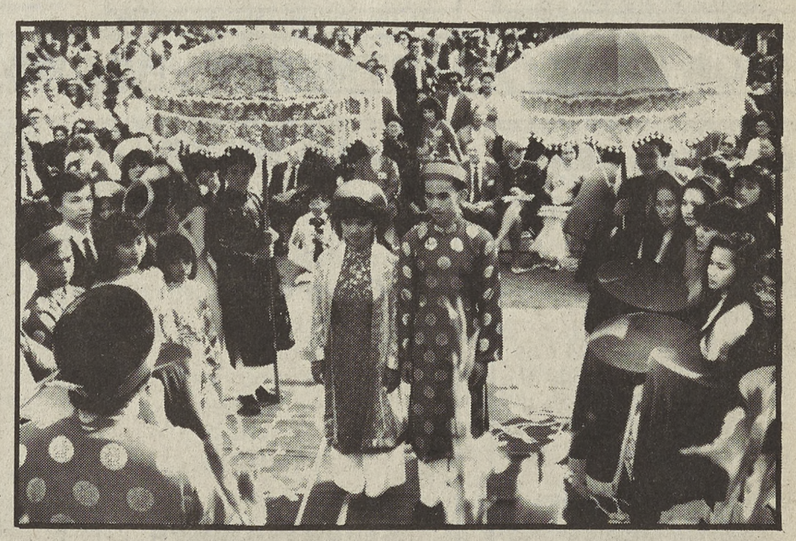
**MARTIAL ARTS —** Four-time winner in his division 8-year-old Quoc shows his expertise in Kung Fu during exhibition .

**REFLECTION —** Monk, Duc Diem, at Sepulveda Buddhist temple at a midnight ceremony dedicated to prayers for peace, good health, happiness and prosperity in the coming year.

**DRAGON OF DIFFERENT COLOR —** Yellow colored, furry dragon was in competition with three other "dragons" for best performance.

**CHASING AWAY EVIL SPIRITS —** Dragons have been used for many centuries in Chinese tradition to chase away "evil spirits." Steve Huynh holds the dragon's head while Tran Quang Khai brings up the rear. These two high school students have worked together as a "dragon" for a couple of years. They appeared at a festival in the City of Westminster.

**LONG TRADITION —** Keeping with old customs and traditions (L-R) Tran Huu Khanh, Nguyen An Phong and Tran Loi kneel in prayer in ceremony.



**WEDDING DAY —** Bride and groom, Thao Thach and Michael Nguyen, chose the new year as their wedding day because it is considered lucky.